

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) An electronic processing device, comprising:
- 2 (a) a user interface to interact with a user;
- 3 (b) location detection electronics within the electronic processing device;
- 4 (c) processing electronics within the electronic processing device connected to the
- 5 user interface and the location detection electronics;
- 6 (d) memory to store a plurality of functions/applications ~~associated with a plurality~~
- 7 ~~of geographic regions~~, and at least one geographic location in which at least one
- 8 function/application is enabled, and an enablement bit to enable the
- 9 function/application in the geographic location, the memory within the
- 10 electronic processing device and connected to the processing electronics; and
- 11 (e) ~~a gatekeeper to allow access to at least one application/function only when the~~
- 12 ~~electronic processing device is within an associated one of the plurality of~~
- 13 ~~geographic locations based solely on the associated geographic location a~~
- 14 verifier to periodically determine that the electronic processing device is still
- 15 within the geographic region while the function/application is enabled, and if
- 16 not, to disable the function/application.

- 1 2. (Currently Amended) A method to access an application/function in an electronic
- 2 processing device, comprising the steps of:
- 3 (a) invoking a user interface of the electronic processing device;

- 4 (b) ~~entering a description of a first geographic location~~ obtaining the GPS location
5 from GPS processing electronics within the electronic processing device of a
6 first geographic location and creating boundaries by extending a selected
7 distance from the GPS location to derive a first geographic region;
8 (c) associating at least one application/function of the electronic processing device
9 with the first geographic region;
10 (d) enabling a user to access the at least one application/function of the electronic
11 device only when the electronic device is in the first geographic region based
12 ~~solely~~ on whether the electronic processing device is within the geographic
13 region associated with the at least one application/function by determining the
14 present location of the electronic device using GPS signals processed by GPS
15 processing electronics within the electronic device, and enabling the electronic
16 device based on an enablement bit within the electronic device;
17 (e) periodically confirming that the electronic device is still within the first
18 geographic region while the application/function is enabled;
19 (f) disabling the at least one application/function when the electronic device is
20 moved out of the first geographic region while the application/function is
21 enabled.

3. (Cancelled)

- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of entering a description of a first
2 geographic region further comprises:
- 3 (a) delineating the boundaries of the first geographic region using a graphical user
4 interface on a map containing the first geographic region.
- 1 5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of entering a description of a first
2 geographic region further comprises entering the longitude and latitude coordinates of
3 the boundaries of the geographic region.
- 1 6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of entering a description of a first
2 geographic region further comprises entering a street address associated with a
3 geographic region.
- 1 7. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
2 (a) entering a description of a second geographic region;
3 (b) associating a second application/function with the second geographic region.
- 1 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 (a) assigning a priority to the first and second geographic region.
- 1 9. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 (a) assigning a priority to the first and second application/function.

10. (Cancelled)

1 11. (Currently Amended) A method to restrict access to an application/function of an
2 electronic processing device, comprising the steps of:

- 3 (a) invoking a user interface of the electronic processing device;
4 (b) determining the present location of the electronic processing device;
5 (c) invoking an application/function of the electronic processing device;
6 (d) ~~restricting access to~~ enabling the application/function of the electronic
7 processing device ~~solely because the electronic processing device is not within a~~
8 ~~geographic region associated with the application/function~~ by determining that
9 an enablement bit in memory of the electronic processing device is enabled
10 within the present location of the electronic processing device; and
11 (e) sending a message to abort the enabled application/function whenever the
12 electronic processing device is moved out of ~~the associated geographic region~~
13 present location.

1 12. (Currently Amended) A method to protect an electronic processing device from
2 unauthorized use, comprising the steps of:

- 3 (a) invoking a user interface of the electronic processing device;
4 (b) entering a description of at least one geographic location by a method selected
5 from the group of methods consisting of: obtaining the GPS location from GPS
6 processing electronics within the electronic processing device and creating

7 boundaries by extending a selected distance from the GPS location, delineating
8 the boundaries of the first geographic region using a graphical user interface on
9 a map containing the first geographic region, entering the longitude and latitude
10 of the boundaries of the geographic region, and entering a street address
11 associated with a geographic region;

12 (c) invoking at least one application/function stored on the electronic processing
13 device;

14 (d) associating each of the at least one application/function with one of the at least
15 one geographic region by enabling a bit in memory of the electronic processing
16 device which indicates that the at least one application/function can be enabled
17 with the at least one geographic region;

18 (e) determining the present location of the electronic processing device using GPS
19 signals processed by GPS processing electronics within the electronic processing
20 device;

21 (f) assigning priority to the at least one geographic region;

22 (g) allowing the user to use the at least one application/function in the at least one
23 geographic region ~~solely~~ because the at least one geographic region is the
24 geographic region associated with the at least one application/function;

25 (h) indicating that the electronic processing device has moved out of the associated
26 geographic region; and

27 (i) notifying a user that the application/function should be aborted.

13. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising a data storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine readable instructions executable by an electronic processing apparatus to perform method steps for operating the electronic processing apparatus, said method steps comprising the steps of:

- (a) storing a plurality of descriptions of geographic regions in memory of an electronic processing apparatus;
- (b) storing a plurality of applications/functions in memory of an electronic processing apparatus, each associated with one or more of the descriptions of geographic regions by storing an enablement bit in memory of the electronic processing apparatus for one of the plurality of applications/functions for one or more of the descriptions of geographic regions ;
- (c) assigning a priority to each of the plurality of descriptions of geographic regions;
- (d) determining and periodically updating the present location of the electronic processing device; and
- (e) allowing a user to use an application/function of the electronic processing device in the present location ~~solely~~ because the present location is within the description of the geographic region associated with the application/function.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A secure electronic processing device, comprising:

2 (a) means within the secure electronic processing device to store a plurality of
3 descriptions of geographic locations in which said secure electronic processing
4 device may be used;

5 (b) means within the secure electronic processing device to store a plurality of
6 geographic-specific applications/functions, ~~each of said geographic-specific~~
7 ~~applications/functions associated with at least one of said geographic locations;~~

8 (c) means within the secure electronic processing device to store a plurality of
9 enablement bits, each of the enablement bits enables one of the plurality of
10 geographic-specific applications/functions in at least one of the plurality of
11 descriptions of geographic locations

12 (d) ~~(e)~~ means within the secure electronic processing device to
13 periodically determine the present location of said electronic processing device;

14 (e) ~~(d)~~ means within the secure electronic processing device to determine that said
15 present location is one of said geographic locations;

16 (f) ~~(e)~~ means within the secure electronic processing device to invoke a geographic-
17 specific application/function;

18 (g) ~~(f)~~ means within the secure electronic processing device to allow access to the
19 invoked geographic-specific application/function ~~solely~~ because the present
20 location is one of said geographic locations ~~associated with~~ and the invoked
21 geographic-specific application/function has an enablement bit on.

1 15. (Original) The secure electronic processing device of claim 14, wherein the means to
2 determine that said present location is one of said geographic locations further
3 comprises a GPS antenna and GPS processing electronics.

1 16. (Original) The secure electronic processing device of claim 15, further comprising
2 means to abort the invoked application/function solely because the present location is
3 not one of said geographic locations associated with the invoked geographic-specific
4 application/function.